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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/617,234	07/14/2000	Takehiro Yoshida	35.G2619	5377
5514	7590	04/08/2004	EXAMINER	
FITZPATRICK CELLA HARPER & SCINTO			JONES, DAVID	
30 ROCKEFELLER PLAZA			ART UNIT	
NEW YORK, NY 10112			PAPER NUMBER	
			2622	
DATE MAILED: 04/08/2004				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/617,234

Applicant(s)

YOSHIDA, TAKEHIRO

Examiner

David L Jones

Art Unit

2622

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE ____ MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 04 October 2000.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Information Disclosure Statement

2. The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on 9/22/2000 was filed after the mailing date of the application on 7/14/2000. The submission is in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97. Accordingly, the information disclosure statement is being considered by the examiner.

Response to Amendment

3. Preliminary amendment A dated 7/14/2000 has been made of record.
4. Preliminary amendment B dated 8/3/2000 has been made of record.

Drawings

5. The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they include the following reference sign(s) not mentioned in the description: Fig. 1, #26. A proposed drawing correction, corrected drawings, or amendment to the specification to add the reference sign(s) in the description, are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Specification

6. The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

The following title is suggested: Communication apparatus for ring-type multiple address transmission/reception.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

7. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

8. Claims 1-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Watanabe et al. (US 5,170,428).

Regarding claim 1, Watanabe et al. discloses a communication apparatus (facsimile) adapted to perform ring-type multiple-address transmission (relay operation, as defined in the specification of the instant application), said apparatus comprising:

a registration unit (fig. 2, #9, column 2, lines 48-68, column 3, lines 1-4) arrange to register a sub-address signal and a communication specification so as to correspond to a memory box;

Art Unit: 2622

a start selector, (fig. 2, #7, column 3, lines 5-26) arranged to select a start of a ring-type multiple-address transmission;

a ring-type multiple address reception transfer selector, (fig. 2, #12 & #13, column 3, lines 27-45) arranged to select a transfer of a ring-type multiple-address reception; and

a controller, (fig. 2, #6, column 2, lines 48-68, column 3, lines 1-4) arranged to perform a control operation so that, when a start of a ring-type multiple address transmission has been selected, transmitter information is added, and when a transfer of ring-type multiple-address reception has been selected, the transmitter information is not added. Watanabe discloses in column 4, lines 45-55, that if the operation is a relay operation then the information of the relay station is not added to the transmitted information.

Regarding claim 2, Watanabe et al. discloses a communication apparatus (facsimile) adapted to perform ring-type multiple-address transmission, wherein said controller performs a control operation so that, when a start of ring-type multiple-address transmission has been selected, information indicating ring-type multiple-address transmission and information indicating a nickname of information to be transmitted are added as transmitter information. Watanabe discloses in column 3, lines 5-26, that the transmitter or originating unit information is added to the transmitted document. Therefore, it would be inherent that the information that is preprogrammed within the originating unit as to the unit's information, be added to a transmitted document, and that if a nickname is used to describe the unit then a nickname would be added to the transmitted information.

Regarding claim 3, Watanabe et al. discloses a communication apparatus

Art Unit: 2622

(facsimile) adapted to perform ring-type multiple-address transmission, wherein said controller performs a control operation so that, when the sub-address signal and a transfer to a predetermined address, (column 3, lines 5-26) serving as communication specification, are registered in said registration unit so as to correspond to the memory box, if the registered sub-address signal is received, the transmitter information is added, and the received information is transferred to the predetermined address. The claim is interpreted to mean, that if a plurality of addresses is to receive a transmitted document then the transmitted information of the originating unit's information is added to the document. Watanabe discloses that the information of originating unit is added not the information of any relay units.

Regarding claim 5, Watanabe et al. discloses a communication apparatus

(facsimile) adapted to perform ring-type multiple-address transmission, wherein said controller performs a control operation so that, when the sub-address signal and a transfer to a predetermined address, (column 3, lines 5-26) serving as communication specification, are registered in said registration unit so as to correspond to the memory box, if the registered sub-address signal is received, the transmitter information is added, and the received information is transferred to the predetermined address. The claim is interpreted to mean, that if a plurality of addresses are to receive a transmitted document then the transmitted information of the originating unit's information is added to the document. Watanabe discloses that the information of originating unit is added not the information of any relay units.

Regarding claim 4, Watanabe et al. discloses a communication apparatus

(facsimile) adapted to perform ring-type multiple-address transmission, said apparatus comprising:

Art Unit: 2622

a memory, (fig. 2, #10, column 3, lines 58-59) arranged to store received data;

a transfer unit (fig. 2, #12 & #13, column 3, lines 27-68) arranged to transfer the received data stored in said memory;

an identification unit (fig. 2, #12 & #13, column 3, lines 27-68), arranged to identify whether or not the received data is data assigned to be subjected to ring-type multiple-address processing; and

a processor (fig. 2, #6, column 2, lines 48-68, column 3, lines 1-4), arranged to cause said transfer unit to transfer the received data without adding transmitter information if the received data is data assigned to be subjected to ring-type multiple-address processing, and to cause the transfer unit to transfer the received data with the transmitter information added thereto if the received data is not data assigned to be subjected to the ring-type multiple-address processing (column 4, lines 45-55, and column 5, lines 40-45).

Conclusion

9. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Hirata (US 4,856,052) discloses an apparatus having a dial calling function for performing a relay calling operation..

Kim (US 6,115,141) discloses a facsimile re-transmit function of a received facsimile document without any degradation of image quality.

Art Unit: 2622


Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to David L Jones whose telephone number is (703) 305-4675. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday (7:00am - 3:30pm).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward Coles can be reached on (703) 305-4712. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

David L. Jones



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